

KERENSKY REAL LEADER OF MEN, DIPLOMAT SAYS

Bakhtmetieff Compares Rise to That of Washington and Lincoln

CAME FROM THE PEOPLE

Russian Envoy Proudly Tells Achievements of New Nation's Hero

This is the second and last installment of an interview with the Russian Ambassador at Washington.

By JAMES M. BENNETT

WASHINGTON, July 18.

"Alexander Kerensky, a man of the people, who came up from among them, is the dominant personality in Russia today," said Ambassador Bakhtmetieff, as he began to tell me of the War Minister of new Russia.

"Kerensky stands, as you would say here in America, head and shoulders above every man in Russia. He's a born leader. He's a man among men and he has revealed himself as the hope of the rejuvenated nation."

"How true," I asked, "in the expression that Kerensky is the savior of Russia?"

"He is, indeed, the savior of Russia," replied the Ambassador.

"In all great crises of nations, a man comes to the front as the one leader. You had your Washington, your Lincoln of the long ago, and it gives me great pleasure to say you have your Wilson of today. And so, in Russia, almost overnight, as it were, Kerensky developed."

"Will you please tell me some of the things Kerensky has done?"

ADDRESSES RENEWED HOPES

"I can't think of all of them at the moment. I do know, however, that his addresses to the army of Russia renewed the fading hopes of the men who today are fighting Russia's battles. I also know that he cheered the men of the battle lines with his determination to press on until success comes."

"And, please, something of Kerensky's trip to the front. He, personally, led the troops, did he not?"

"This question seemed to please the Ambassador. He leaned back in his chair, as a gentle and refreshing breeze came through the windows, and appeared lost in thought. I didn't interrupt. I knew the statesman and patriot was thinking of the land of his birth. I knew his thoughts had wandered thousands of miles across the deep and over the lands to Russia, to New Russia, the hope, as he already has expressed it, of the allied arms of the Entente nations."

Several minutes passed. The Ambassador didn't utter a word. His eyes closed. Suddenly he opened them, seemed galvanized into new vigor and said: "Please repeat your last question?"

"Your Excellency," I said, "I asked, 'Please say something of Kerensky's trip to the front. He, personally, led the troops, did he not?'"

"Oh, excuse me," said the Ambassador. "I must admit I forgot for a time, brief as it was, that you had asked me about the bravery of Kerensky—our Kerensky, as we love to think of him."

"Kerensky, wonderful and magnetic man, went to the trenches of his own volition. No one suggested it to him. And what a success tended him! His presence, his record, his addresses inspired the soldiers. They got new life and they are fighting today, hundreds of thousands of them, ever mindful of the words of Kerensky when he said to them: 'Strike for Russia, your Russia, our Russia! Strike!'"

"The response was almost like magic. Dull, disinterested soldiers became men in a twinkling, fighting men, men with a great cause and a great future. Today the effect of Kerensky's visit to the front continues to be felt."

"The work of the Socialist slender of frame, strong of will and determined of purpose, has borne fruit, and the world has cause to be thankful that such a big, big man came to the fore in Russia."

I asked the Ambassador: "What of the stories that come to the United States, some through apparently reliable news agencies, telling of the weak body that supports the trained, well-poised and highly developed brain of Kerensky?"

"Largely nonsense are such reports," said the Ambassador. "Kerensky's body is not as weak as the German propagandists would have Americans believe."

"Long after the war is over I hope Kerensky will be spared to be a power for the Russian people and a blessing to them."

"And now, your Excellency, a word, if you please, about yourself?"

"No, I thank you, nothing about myself. I am only a plain Russian, sent here by a plain people to serve them. Such is my mission to America."

"Yes, your Excellency, but can't you give me an expression of some sort to convey to the people of Philadelphia and vicinity?"

"Tell them we love them; tell them our hearts throb with theirs; tell them we, like they, are looking and hoping for the coming of the time when, as your illustrious President says, a new light shall shine upon the face of the people."

As the Ambassador made this statement I knew the time of my going had come. He arose, bowed, clasped my hand and said:

"Some again some day, please, I shall be glad to see you. You American newspaper men are, shall we say, so persevering and intelligent."

I bowed my way out of the big room of red and white and gold as Boris Bakhtmetieff, the Russian Ambassador, stood back of his desk smiling, bright of eye, strong of countenance, as he watched me go. I looked more to politics than to the needs of the nation in this critical hour.

YANKEE "PEP" NOW IN BRITISH CABINET

Geddes, Admiralty Head, Was Trained in America, Churchill in Again

LONDON, July 18.

Premier Lloyd George will have an expedition of American "pep" as his new First Lord of the Admiralty in Sir Eric Geddes, who got much of his training in the United States.

Choice of this young business man to lead the important Admiralty post, involving direct control for the fleet, was the most popular of the changes announced by Premier Lloyd George in the interest of efficiency.

The long-expected reshuffle was much discussed today. It is too early to see how the public is going to accept the rearrangement, but it is certain that popular opinion is none for cardial toward Ministers who looked more to politics than to the needs of the nation in this critical hour.

The British press today generally predicted Sir Edward Carson, shifted to become a member of the War Cabinet, would fit in better in his new post as member of the War Council than in the Admiralty. He lacks purely administrative qualities so necessary for the marine department.

ROBERT FOR CARSON

The Daily Chronicle, which usually registers public opinion correctly, expresses satisfaction with all the appointments except that of Sir Edward Carson. He is described by the Chronicle as unversed in war as a statesmanship and inexperienced in internal affairs.

"The sole justification for his position is political," said the Chronicle. "He fits it because the Unionist party has a pull in politics, and because he himself, on the strength of organizing a coalition in 1915 some years ago, has a pull with the Unionist party."

Opposition to Winston Spencer Churchill's appointment as Minister of Munitions was voiced by several editors today, but his enemies are charitable of his faults in view of his extraordinary energy. It is believed Churchill would soon be given an opportunity to extend his activity on speeding up aircraft construction.

Dr. Christopher Addison, displaced by Churchill, becomes Minister of Reconstruction and Edwin Samuel Montagu, a former Minister, succeeds J. Austen Chamberlain, resigned as Secretary of State for India.

The Morning Post attacks the appointment of Doctor Addison, saying that he has made every blunder possible.

GEDDES SCOTCH BY BIRTH

Sir Eric Campbell Geddes, Scotch by birth, is forty-two years old. He went to the United States in 1892. A civil engineer by profession, he worked in the lumber districts for some time and was in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for several years.

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First of all, the statesman and the people should have a true conception of the nature of war and of the character of the particular war they are taking up. Otherwise the leading cannot be right. The supreme leader is always the statesman, and in a democratic country the people must understand and sympathize with the statesman. If he does not far ahead they will not follow, and if the popular ideas on the subject of war are not true the greatest leader may be crippled.

In the military sphere the first thing is the choice of a commander and his assistants. When raising an army the vital matter is the choice and education of the officers. In the training of troops all soldiers should be drilled to aim at discipline, and the best means of giving it, providing the officers have been well chosen and rightly taught, is to teach the soldiers to shoot and to march.

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SALIENT WAR POINTS FOR AMERICAN THOUGHT

Spencer Wilkinson, Oxford Military Expert, Presents Timely and Pertinent Views

LONDON, July 18.

A series of articles on America's part in the war has been prepared by Professor Spencer Wilkinson, well-known British military critic. The first installment appears below.

By SPENCER WILKINSON

Professor of military history, Oxford University, LONDON, July 18 (by mail).

In my judgment the important matters for a nation going into war are these: First of all, the statesman and the people should have a true conception of the nature of war and of the character of the particular war they are taking up. Otherwise the leading cannot be right. The supreme leader is always the statesman, and in a democratic country the people must understand and sympathize with the statesman. If he does not far ahead they will not follow, and if the popular ideas on the subject of war are not true the greatest leader may be crippled.

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LIBERALS MAINTAIN STAND ON PEACE

Continued from Page One

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War Lottery May Be Drawn in 56 Hours

Continued from Page One

The House and Senate Military Commissions have begun their official work on the drawing and Secretary Baker may call the first caucus. Secretary Baker, Chief of Staff Bliss, Quartermaster General Sharpe and others have called down the Potomac for an uninterrupted conference on final details.

In general the order in which the muster numbers are drawn here will indicate the order of liability for service, though owing to the varying registrations in different districts, the numbers will be divided into some group form, making the system more complicated than at first anticipated.

Ohio, Virginia, Utah, Illinois and New York were expected to report today, with Michigan and Kentucky still behind and Missouri scheduled to finish tomorrow.

Almost immediately after the lottery local exemption boards will summon men for physical tests. Every man summoned must take this test, whether or not he intends to make an exemption claim.

GUARDS ATTACK SLACKER

MAHANAY CITY, Pa., July 18.—Otto Herring, an interned German sailor, candidate for naturalization papers and member of Company F, Eighth Infantry, refused to take the oath of naturalization at the army post and was locked up by Captain Hinch to await action by the Federal authorities.

Herring is accused of attempting to escape service in France against seven brothers in the German army. He was nearly mobbed by the company before being locked up.

TURNED BURGLAR TO GET MONEY FOR A GOOD TIME

Prisoner, Caught After a Chase, Admits Breaking Into West Philadelphia Store

After several revolver shots had been fired during a chase of a man seen by the police coming from the store of Fred P. Bell, 504 Baltimore avenue, the fugitive was captured one square from the store. When taken to the Sixty-fifth street and Woodland avenue police station he admitted that he had broken into the store by tearing open a cellar window and had taken \$27.88 from the cash drawer.

The money was found on him. He gave his name as Christopher Gates, twenty-five years, 5116 Beaumont avenue.

When asked by Magistrate Harris why he committed the robbery he said he needed money to have a good time. The prisoner was held in \$1000 bail for a further hearing Sunday. The police think that by the arrest of Gates they may be able to clear up a number of the numerous grocery store robberies which have occurred in West Philadelphia recently.

Ball of Fire Hits Pitman House

A ball of fire which fell swiftly during a thunderstorm in Pitman, N. J., last night struck a tree and crashed in the side of a bungalow. Residents sitting on verandas nearby were stunned and frightened, but no one was injured. The house was unoccupied. The electrical ball first struck a tree and throwing it twenty feet. Then the ball soared over to the house and broke in one side. The phenomenon was accompanied by an ear-splitting crash.

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